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WASHINGTON.

The House Makes Another Raid on the Iron Men.

Passage of a Bill in the House Providing for a Law Department.

Important Facts Brought out in the Howard Investigation.

Probable Course of the Conference Committee on the Income Tax.

The General Amnesty Question.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

BILL TO ESTABLISH A LAW DEPARTMENT.

WASHINGTON, April 28.—The bill prepared by Messrs. Lawrence and Jenckes, providing for a law department, and designed to reduce the expenses now incurred for extra legal services, passed the House to-day without the call of the yeas and nays. The discussion showed that under the loose practice which had sprung up the cost of the irregular items had amounted to about $100,000 a year. The following was the showing for the year 1867, exclusive of the expenses of the patent trial: By the Treasury Department, $67,81.16; by the Attorney General's Department in the Supreme Court of the United States, $30,000; by special counsel to assist District Attorneys, $7,500.59; by the Assistant District Attorneys, $6,000; by special counsel employed, $1,500; by the State Department, about $6,000. Total for one year, $99,481.75. In addition the amount paid per single attorney, for a series of years, has largely exceeded the whole salary of the Attorney General. As an example of this, the Judge publishes the following statement of fees and expenses paid in a year: 1871, to W. M. Evarts, employed by the Attorney General, amount $1,000; 1865, W. M. Evarts, employed by Attorney General, $2,500; 1866, W. M. Evarts, employed by State Department, $11,840.97; 1866, W. M. Evarts, employed by Treasury Department, $7,500; 1868, W. M. Evarts, employed by Treasury Department, $5,000; 1867, W. M. Evarts, employed by Treasury Department, $10,000; 1867, W. M. Evarts, employed by Attorney General, $6,666. Total, $47,548.98.

A NEW STEAMBOAT LAW

passed the Senate to-day. It is substantially the same as Agnew's bill. By the concession of over seven at Cincinnati two years ago, with an amendment made by the Supervisors who met in that city some months after, it required Captains and mates to have a license, makes stringent provisions regarding the quality of fuel to be used in boilers and reduces the amount of steam allowed; from one-sixth to one-fifth. It prohibits the transportation of passengers on the deck of freight boats more than one hundred and ten degrees. The bill will go to the House to-morrow.

THE SPECIAL SESSION.

The Special House Committee heard further argument on the bill to take government charge of the telegraph. To-day and to-morrow will appear for the Western Union Company. Thereupon Messrs. Stuart and Cary will be heard in opposition on the subject at that session, though Mr. Washburne is very anxious to get the subject out of the committee.

THE FREEDMEN'S BUREAU INVESTIGATION.

R. M. Hatt, real estate agent, who had charge of the sale of Mrs. Johnson's property, was examined to-day before the Committee on Education and Labor that three lots were reserved for Rowan estate at the time of the sale, and were sold by Colonel Brady, Commissioner, by order of the Secretary of War, one for General Howard, one for General Bullock, Superintendent of Education, and one for Abbott, Superintendent of Schools. The first was paid for as testified yesterday; the other two were paid for by Messrs. —, after the sale by the Trustees. Prof. Ogden, of Fisk University, Tennessee, testified that he had received no money from the Bureau, and had to the extent of $2,000—$1,000 of it being in bonds of the Young Men's Christian Association of this city. He also testified that the Bureau had sufficient means, General Howard telegraphed to him that if he would return this fund it would be applied to further questioning witness produced the telegram. The examination of J. M. Brown, Disbursing Officer of the Bureau, will be resumed to-morrow. He insisted that the number for several hundred tenements on the Barry farm, and three or four rows of barracks in the city, was continued by the General Charles Howard, and paraphrase of his father-in-law, Frazer, of Bangor, Maine. It was brought here at the government expense. He also testified to having been directed to pay $2,000, principally from funds raised by Congress to relieve the destitution in this district, and from the refugee fund, for grading property in which the clerk in charge of the office had an interest. Witness was directed to prepare a detailed statement of all the expenditures on account of the University, hospital, and Barry farm.

THE TARIFF BILL.

There is only the same old story to tell about the Tariff bill, viz.: The Wire and Means Committee and iron interests were again beaten. The defeat of to-day was the most serious one they have experienced. The House refused to increase the 35 tons per hundred pounds. The committee, it is said, proposed to make it 40. The bill was passed under the consideration of previous debate, coincided to abandon the clause of the measure and to report the bill without amendment. The House unanimously fell vote reduced the rate to 30 cents by 90th majority. Many members claiming the little information of by Pome and Judd, and some of the Senators are also, to know what duty body must do before the end of the session, looking into the tariff question. Mr. Armstrong, of Pennsylvania, made a brief speech in favor of fostering the domestic, in which he expressed the strong conviction that the rate of duty on pig iron will be restored to seven dollars; but this amendment was voted down by a large majority. Indeed does not seem to warrant his confidence.

THE INCOME TAX BILL.

The Conference Committee on the Income Tax still held a short meeting, to-day, and talked over the questions at issue without reaching a conclusion. Telegrams were thereupon sent off to the effect that the conference was not ready to report. This conclusion is not at all warranted by the facts. Senator Sherman and General Schenck are considering the matter from a party standpoint, and how politics can be reduced

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THE PILGRIM FATHERS.

Address by the Rev. Mr. Post.

Resolutions Submitted—One Million Dollars to be Raised.

The School System and Fifteenth Amendment Endorsed.

MORNING SESSION.

The Pilgrim Memorial Convention was again called to order at 9 o'clock, yesterday morning, by the Rev. Dr. Tompkins, of Connecticut.

The proceedings were opened by the singing of the hymn, "I love Thy Kingdom, Lord."

Rev. Dr. Vermilye, of Connecticut, offered prayer.

On motion of Rev. Dr. Dexter, of Massachusetts, it was resolved that no motions should be entertained by the convention, except such as should be reported from the Business Committee.

ADDRESS OF REV. POST.

Rev. T. M. Post, of St. Louis, then addressed the convention. He said he had expected that bleak, rock-bound coast of New England, and was not exactly prepared for the bounties he counted that storm-tossed Mayflower, with its load of history, reaching her moorings for rest, or upon the dreary, cheerless shore that had welcomed her. He had expected an address of bitter blasts, and was impressed as the description of the "Ark of the Wilderness" was given. What they needed was the illustration of the principles that underlay the Pilgrim principles. Those principles must bear fruit now, as they had borne fruit then. Those principles must be spread thrown off by some mechanical earth-quake, but rather than the Vatican or St. Peter's, or the Kremlin, or the Escurial, or the Tuileries, or the Hall of Versailles, or the Hall of Mirrors, or the Hall of Ancestors, or the Hall of Marshals, or the Hall of Generals, or the Hall of Kings, or the Hall of Emperors, or the Hall of Constantine, or the Hall of Charlemagne, or the Hall of Napoleon, but rather than the Vatican or St. Peter's, or the Kremlin, or the Escurial, or the Tuileries

FOREIGN.

Turbulent Political Meetings Throughout France.

The Great European Powers on the Question of Infallibility.

Members of the Greek Parliament in League with the Brigands.

Serious Illness of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

FRANCE.

PARIS, April 27.—Most of the political meetings held throughout the country yesterday were exciting and turbulent. At all of them which assembled in the city Monsieur Rochefort's name was received with shouts of delirious applause. The gentlemen from DeLaib was the only one who seemed to have any real cause of complaint. Some misbehavior occurred at nearly three examination points in the speech which there admitted him only a portion.

THE CONVENTION.

BALTIMORE, Thursday, April 28.

The convention met at 9 o'clock. The Chairman announced the list of delegates entitled to seats. The following gentlemen were added to the committee on credentials, for the purpose of reporting on the case of Kentucky: Messrs. Hall, Hamilton, Harrison, Hawkins, and GOODHUE rose to personal explanations.

PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS.

Mr. MCCOY presented a petition of citizens of Warren County, Kentucky, asking that the Democratic organization of that county be recognized.

Mr. HAWKINS moved the previous question of the pending motion, which was seconded.

Mr. BRYARD moved to amend by striking out the words in the fourth line, as follows, to strike out the words in the fourth line, as follows, to strike out the words "Democratic" and insert "Democratic," and it was carried.

Mr. CRAIG moved to amend by inserting the words "three-fifths" in place of "a majority," in the second line of the fourth resolution.

Mr. ALLEN, of Crawford, thought a majority of three-fifths of the convention should be required, and opposed the amendment. He offered a substitute, as follows:

"No county seat shall be removed unless the vote to which it is proposed to be removed shall be voted for by law, and a majority of the legal ratified votes of such county shall have voted in favor of its removal to such a point; but no vote shall be taken at any such point on the day of any other than once in ten years.

Mr. SCHOFIELD said even this would not consent a strictly fair vote. He offered a substitute, the effect of which was to submit to a separate vote of the people.

Mr. ARCHER had always been opposed to any principle by which a majority of a county seat could be required to support any public question at the ballot-box, and opposed the substitute.

Mr. GAMBLE offered an amendment that all votes cast for county seats in excess of 3/5ths shall be added to the county six months.

Mr. UNDERWOOD said he got as here peace." This was a good motto for county matters as well as for State and national matters. He favored a three-fifths requirement. There could be no permanency without some such provision.

Mr. Craig's amendment was laid on the table.

Mr. GAMBLE's amendment provided further that no person shall vote upon the question who has not resided in the county six months and in the election district ninety days next preceding the election.

Mr. TINCHER moved to amend the amendment, as follows:

"Provided that the question of the removal of county seat shall not be submitted oftener than once in ten years."

Both amendments were adopted.

Mr. ARCHER moved to strike out "county" in the second line, the word "county" being inserted after "county," in the third line, the word "county" being inserted after "county,"